

time, after time explained the impact of unwise interference in the market system by Washington upon Nebraska. We have never had any real agreement. As I said on this floor on January 4, 1980, the most recent grain embargo, that the first people that suffered would be the farmer, the second would be the business man and the last would be the laboring man. I did not specifically identify the banks. But today the banks in Nebraska are perhaps more concerned about this economy than even the farmers themselves because, individually, a higher percentage of the farmers may survive. I think that there have been some suggestions made that are good. But I think if we go back to Washington we should also try to give some consensus as to proposed solutions. I visited with Senator Carsten and he has already contacted at least one neighboring state. I think it is going to require the cooperation of all of the midwestern states who are adversely impacted if anything good is going to happen. I don't think there is any chance, any chance at all, that even in this Legislature you can get a vote that is going to do anything just for one small section or sector of Nebraska. We saw that last year with Commonwealth. We've seen it as it adversely impacted other groups, individuals and professions. It is only when it is recognized that we will all either sink or swim together that we are all going to become equally concerned. I make the prediction on this floor today that unless interest rates come down, unless the prices of agricultural commodities improve, unless we address those issues, that this recession will become a depression, that it will spread not just to the Mississippi and the Rockies but to the Atlantic and the Pacific. The time will come when not even the federal government can prime the pump enough to keep those areas going if the entire midwestern section of the country is desolate. I support the resolution. I would hope that we would give it some really serious consideration. I know that Senator Johnson and the members of the Ag Committee ought to be intimately involved in this because they are going to be the ones who are going to be most closely allied and associated with the agricultural problem in the weeks and months to come. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Under discussion is the second point of the Lamb amendment to the Vickers resolution. The Chair recognizes Senator Carsten.